



Serial No.: 09/989,326

**VERSION OF SPECIFICATION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

Please replace Paragraph [0001] as follows:

[0001] This application is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/247,009, filed February 8, 1999, [pending]now U.S. Patent 6,351,028 B1, issued February 26, 2002.

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VERSION OF CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Amended) An interposer apparatus for use between a first semiconductor device and a second semiconductor device, said first semiconductor device and said second semiconductor device each having a plurality of bond pads disposed on an active surface thereof and a bottom surface, comprising:

a first surface having a first length and a first width;

a second surface having a length and a width smaller than said first width of said first surface,

said first surface comprising an overhang portion of said apparatus for protection of said plurality of bond pads disposed on said first semiconductor device and said second surface being mountable to [the]said active surface of said first semiconductor device.

10. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said common unitary member has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially equal to that of said first semiconductor device.

11. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said common unitary member has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially equal to that of said second semiconductor device.

12. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said common unitary member has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially equal to that of said first semiconductor device and said second semiconductor device.

15. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [the]said length of said second surface is substantially the same as said first length of said first surface.

16. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [the]said length of said second surface is substantially the same as the width of said second surface.

17. (Amended) An interposer apparatus for use between a first semiconductor device and a second semiconductor device, said first semiconductor device and said second semiconductor device each having a plurality of bond pads on an active surface thereof and a bottom surface, said apparatus comprising:  
a first surface having a first length and a first width;  
a second surface having a length and a width smaller than said first width of said first surface,  
said first surface comprising an overhang portion of said apparatus for protection of said plurality of bond pads disposed on said first semiconductor device and said second surface being mountable to [the]said active surface of said first semiconductor device;  
a third surface having a first length and a first width; and  
a fourth surface having a length and a width smaller than said first width of said third surface,  
said third surface providing an overhang portion of said apparatus for protection of said plurality of bond pads disposed on said second semiconductor device and said fourth surface being mountable to [the]said active surface of said second semiconductor device.

27. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said common unitary member has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially equal to that of said first semiconductor device.

28. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said common unitary member has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially equal to that of said first semiconductor device.

29. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said common unitary member has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially equal to that of said second semiconductor device.

30. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said common unitary member has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially equal to that of said second semiconductor device.

31. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said common unitary member has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially equal to that of said first semiconductor device and said second semiconductor device.

32. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said common unitary member has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially equal to that of said first semiconductor device and said second semiconductor device.

36. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 17, wherein [the]said length of said second surface is substantially the same as said first length of said first surface.

37. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 17, wherein [the]said length of said second surface is substantially the same as the width of said second surface.

38. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 17, wherein [the]said length of said fourth surface is substantially the same as said first length of said third surface.

39. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 17, wherein [the]said length of said fourth surface is substantially the same as the width of said fourth surface.

40. (Amended) An interposer apparatus for use between a plurality of semiconductor devices, each semiconductor device of said plurality of semiconductor devices having at least one bond pad on an active surface thereof and a bottom surface, comprising:  
a first surface having a first length and a first width;  
a second surface having a length and a width smaller than said first width of said first surface,  
said first surface providing a protective overhang portion that protects the at least one bond pad on an active surface of a first semiconductor device and said second surface being mountable to [the]said active surface of said first semiconductor device.

41. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 40, wherein said protective overhang portion further comprises at least one conductive strip for connecting to said first semiconductor device.

43. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 40, further comprising:  
a third surface having a first length and a first width; and  
a fourth surface having a length and a width smaller than said first width of said third surface,  
said third surface providing a portion that is at least partially covering [the]said at least one bond pad on an active surface of a second semiconductor device and said fourth surface being mountable to [the]said active surface of said second semiconductor device.

49. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 40, wherein [the]said length of said second surface is substantially the same as said first length of said first surface.

50. (Amended) The interposer apparatus according to claim 40, wherein [the]said length of said second surfaces is substantially the same as the width of said second surface.

51. (Amended) A stack of semiconductor devices on a substrate comprising:  
a first semiconductor device having at least one bond pad on an active surface thereof, mounted to said substrate;  
a first interposer device mounted to said first semiconductor device, on a side opposite said substrate, said first interposer device having a first surface of a first area and a second surface of a second area less than said first area with a first pair of recesses formed on opposing edges of said first interposer device exposing [the]said at least one bond pad on [the]said active surface of [the]said first semiconductor device, said second surface mounted to [the]said active surface of [the]said first semiconductor device; and  
a second semiconductor device, mounted to said first surface of said first interposer device, opposite said first semiconductor device.

52. (Amended) The stack according to claim 51, further comprising:  
a second interposer device having a first side and a second side, said second interposer device being mounted to said second semiconductor device on said first side thereof, wherein said second interposer device includes a bond pad recess opening for allowing connection between [either ]said first and second semiconductor devices, or between said semiconductor devices and said substrate, or both.

53. (Amended) A conductive apparatus interposed between a first semiconductor device and a second semiconductor device, said first semiconductor device and said second semiconductor device each having a plurality of bond pads on an active surface thereof and a bottom surface, said apparatus comprising:  
a first surface having a first length and a first width;  
a second surface having a length and a width smaller than said first width of said first surface, said first surface comprising an overhang portion of said apparatus that protects said plurality of bond pads disposed on said first semiconductor device and said second surface being mountable to [the]said active surface of said first semiconductor device.

62. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 55, wherein said common unitary member has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially equal to that of said first semiconductor device.

63. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 55, wherein said common unitary member has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially equal to that of said second semiconductor device.

64. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 55, wherein said common unitary member has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially equal to that of said first semiconductor device and said second semiconductor device.

67. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 53, wherein [the]said length of said second surface is substantially the same as said first length of said first surface.

68. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 53, wherein [the]said length of said second surface is substantially the same as the width of said second surface.

69. (Amended) A conductive apparatus for interposing between a plurality of semiconductor devices, each semiconductor device of said plurality of semiconductor devices having at least one bond pad on an active surface thereof and a bottom surface, comprising:  
a first surface having a first length and a first width;  
a second surface having a length and a width smaller than said first width of said first surface,  
said first surface providing a protective overhang portion over [the]said at least one bond pad on an active surface of a first semiconductor device of said plurality of semiconductor devices and said second surface being mountable to [the]said active surface of said first semiconductor device.

70. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 69, further comprising:  
a third surface having a first length and a first width;  
a fourth surface having a length and a width smaller than said first width of said third surface,  
said third surface providing a protective overhang portion that protects [the]said at least  
one bond pad on an active surface of a second semiconductor device of said plurality of  
semiconductor devices and said fourth surface being mountable to [the]said active surface  
of said second semiconductor device.

71. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 69, wherein said protective overhang  
portion further comprises at least one conductive strip for connecting to said first semiconductor  
device.

79. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 69, wherein [the]said length of said  
second surface is substantially the same as said first length of said first surface.

80. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 69, wherein [the]said length of said  
second surfaces is substantially the same as the width of said second surfaces.

81. (Amended) A stack of semiconductor devices on a substrate comprising:  
a first semiconductor device having at least one bond pad on an active surface thereof, mounted  
to said substrate;  
a thermally conductive first interposer device mounted to said first semiconductor device, on a  
side opposite said substrate, said first interposer device having a first surface of a first  
area and a second surface of [a]a second area less than said first area with a first pair of  
recesses formed on opposing edges of said first interposer device exposing [the]said at  
least one bond pad on [the]said active surface of [the]said first semiconductor device,  
said second surface mounted to [the]said active surface of [the]said first semiconductor  
device; and



a second semiconductor device, mounted to said first surface of said first interposer device,  
opposite said first semiconductor device.

82. (Amended) The stack according to claim 81, further comprising:  
a second thermally conductive interposer device having a first side and a second side, said second  
thermally conductive interposer device being mounted to said second semiconductor  
device on said first side thereof, wherein said second thermally conductive interposer  
device includes a bond pad recess opening for allowing connection between [either ]said  
first and second semiconductor devices, or between said semiconductor devices and said  
substrate, or both.